

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3270

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: UNGA, EGEN

SUBJECT: 30TH UNGA - AGENDA ITEM 63: POSSIBLE USG INITIATIVE

TO CREATE AN EXPERTS PANEL TO ADVISE UNDRO

REF: (A) STATE 242141 (B) GENEVA 7852 (C) GENEVA 7865

1. SUMMARY: REACTIONS OF FRENCH, SWEDES, DUTCH, DANES AND BRITISH TO US POSSIBLE INITIATIVE LUKEWARM. MISSION SUGGESTS TOUCHING BASE WITH BERKOL BEFORE PROCEEDING FURTHER. END SUMMARY

2. MISSION APPROACHED FRENCH, SWEDES, DUTCH, DANES AND BRITISH WITH REGARD TO A POSSIBLE U.S. INITIATIVE TO CREATE A PANEL OF EXPERTS TO ADVISE UNDRO. REACTIONS OF THESE AS FOLLOWS: (A) SWEDEN - IN FAVOR OF THE IDEA BUT WANTS TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE PARTICULARS; (B) BRITAIN - FEELS THAT IT IS TACTICALLY UNWISE TO TAKE THIS INITIATIVE IN THE GA ON THE GROUNDS THAT, IN THEIR JUDGMENT, THE EXPERTS PANEL WOULD EMERGE AS AN OVERSIZED INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODY OF SOME SORT. THE UK ALSO FEELS

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THAT BERKOL HAS HIS OWN IDEAS ON AN ADVISORY PANEL

AND BELIEVES THAT HE SHOULD BE PRODDED TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE RATHER THAN OUR MAKING AN ATTEMPT THROUGH THE GA; (C) NETHERLANDS - WHILE AGREEING ON THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN UNDRO, THEY ARE NOT CONVINCED THAT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF A WEEK WITH AN EXPERTS PANEL WOULD HAVE MUCH IMPACT. THEY ARE ALSO NOT SANGUINE THAT EITHER SMALL SIZE OR EXPERT NATURE OF PANEL WOULD EMERGE FROM GA ACTION ON THIS PROPOSAL. RATHER THAN ATTEMPT TO CREATE THE PANEL, GON BELIEVES THAT MORE PRODUCTIVE ROUTE WOULD BE TO ATTEMPT TO STRENGTHEN THE PRESENT STAFFING; (D) DENMARK - DANISH MISOFF HAS NOT RECEIVED RESPONSE FROM HOME OFFICE BUT, ON PERSONAL BASIS, COMMENTED THAT GA LIKELY TO EXPAND EXPERTS PANEL INTO FULL BLOWN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE WITH THE ATTENDANT POLITICIZATION OF ISSUES. AGAIN IN HIS PERSONAL CAPACITY HE ADVANCED THE IDEA OF INCORPORATING UNDRO INTO UNDP AND LOOKING TO LATTER TO KEEP UNDRO ON THE TRACKS; (E) FRANCE- GOF IS RELUCTANT TO SEE THE ESTABLISHMENT IN THE UN SYSTEM OF ANOTHER EXPERT ADVISORY BODY WITH AN ILL-DEFINED MANDATE. MISOFF PERSONALLY SUGGESTED THAT AS ALTERNATIVE, WE MAY WISH TO CONSIDER CALLING FOR STUDY ON UNDRO OPERATIONS OR ESTABLISHING THE PANEL ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS.

2. MISSION SHARES THE DEPT'S CONCERN ABOUT UNDRO AND SEES MERIT IN ESTABLISHING A SMALL EXPERT ADVISORY PANEL TO THIS END. THE OBVIOUS DANGER, WHICH OTHERS HAVE NOTED AS WELL, IS THAT OUR PROPOSAL MIGHT BE EXPANDED IN THE COURSE OF GA CONSIDERATIONS. BERKOL'S ATTITUDE, PARTICULARLY ANY REFERENCES IN HIS SPEECH, COULD BE A DETERMINANT OF THE ATTITUDES OF OTHERS. ACCORDINGLY, MISSION ENDORSES GENEVA'S PROPOSAL (REFTEL C) THAT WE CONSULT WITH BERKOL BEFORE PROCEEDING FURTHER WITH THIS INITIATIVE.  
BENNETT

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